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Customer Number

Patent  
Case No.: 53415US038

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: HARDY, L. CHARLES

Application No.: 09/707,269

Confirmation No.: 9169

Filed: November 6, 2000

Title: METHOD OF MODIFYING A WAFER SUITED FOR  
SEMICONDUCTOR FABRICATION

Entered  
with  
RCE  
5/23/06

RESPONSE

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<p><b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION (37 CFR § 1.8(a))</b></p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transmitted by facsimile on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at 571-273-8300.</p> <p>Date <u>May 23, 2006</u></p> <p>Signed by: <u>[Signature]</u> Daniel D. Blesterveld</p>
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Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated January 23, 2006, in the above-identified application. This response is being filed along with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and is believed to be timely submitted in view of the accompanying petition for a one-month extension. It is believed that no additional fees are due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.